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Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Draft report

Addendum

V. Financial and budgetary matters

1. The Secretariat submitted updated budgetary information on expenditures incurred to date for all five years of operating the first cycle of the Mechanism, revised estimates for the second, third, fourth and fifth years till the end of 2015 and projected resources required after 2015 to fully complete the first cycle. The Secretariat stressed that the post-2015 projections would change depending on the date of launching the second cycle. The Secretariat also detailed the resources received from both the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary contributions and cost-saving measures it had put in place.

2. In addition, and in response to a request by the resumed fifth session of the Implementation Review Group, the Secretariat presented to the Group the projected costs for the functioning of the second cycle of the Mechanism during its first two years of operation, which the Secretariat estimated to total 10.995,000 USD for the review of 90 States parties. In comparison, the projected costs for the full completion of the first cycle were estimated to total 23,995,000 USD for the review of all States parties. The Secretariat clarified that additional projected costs for the 2nd cycle resulted from a required increase in staffing and translation.

3. The Secretariat expressed its appreciation for the voluntary contributions made by States to support the Mechanism, including pledges announced shortly before and during the present session of the Group.

4. Speakers expressed their satisfaction with the transparency of reporting on the funding of the Mechanism and the clarity of the documents before them. Several speakers welcomed the sound financial management exercised by the Secretariat and the overall cost effectiveness and good value for money of the Review Mechanism. One speaker highlighted that the cost-saving policy followed by the Secretariat had resulted in decreasing expenditures. Another speaker contrasted the

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moderate costs of the Review Mechanism with the high global financial and economic cost of corruption, and stressed that the Review Mechanism was the only existing peer review mechanism with a nearly global constituency. Speakers discussed the funding requirements detailed in CRP.6, especially with regard to the requirements for translations, interpretation and staffing. Some speakers called for strengthened measures to increase cost efficiency, including through further streamlining of work processes.

5. With regard to the financing of the 2nd cycle of the Review Mechanism, a number of speakers underlined the importance of sufficient and predictable funding that enabled the Mechanism to function in an impartial and objective manner. Many speakers expressed concerns about the remaining uncertainty about how to meet the funding requirements for the second review cycle.

6. Many speakers stated their support for the current mixed funding model, with parts of the support to and operation of the Mechanism funded from the regular budget of the United Nations and other parts from voluntary contributions, in line with resolution 3/1 of the Conference and the terms of reference of the Mechanism. They also expressed their continuing support for the corresponding model of covering shortfalls, in line with resolution 4/1. Other speakers expressed the view that the Mechanism should be funded from the regular budget of the United Nations in order to ensure sustainability and impartiality. On the other hand, some speakers objected to submitting additional funding requirements to the regular budget process, and one speaker stressed that an agreement on the launch and scope of the second cycle required clarity on the corresponding funding models. One speaker stated that rather than increasing regular budget funding, the compromise reached in resolution 4/1 could be extended over a longer period of time. Generally it was stressed that decisions on the regular budget could only be taken by the appropriate bodies established by the General Assembly.

VI. Other matters

7. The representative of the Russian Federation briefed the Group on preparations for the upcoming sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to be held from 2 to 6 November 2015 in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation. The offer of the Russian Federation to host the sixth session had been welcomed at the fourth session of the Conference held in 2011 in Marrakech, Morocco and a National Organizing Committee had been subsequently established. The Committee was headed by the Minister of Justice and represented by its Secretary at the Group. The Committee was working together with a range of institutions to prepare logistics and schedules, and had selected an operator company to assist. The venue had been identified and was in the centre of the city, with transport to be provided for delegations to and from hotels. The venue was appropriate for large meetings and had sufficient space to accommodate the plenary, parallel meetings, the media and secretariat facilities. A planning mission by UNODC under the auspices of the Committee had been carried out and had enabled consultations on such matters as security, media, technical infrastructure and protocol. The National Organizing Committee had concluded agreements with ten hotels for preferential room rates for delegates. The Committee had set up a template for the Host Country's conference website and logo, and the Bank of Russia was to issue a commemorative coin. The

host country agreement between the Russian Federation and the United Nations was in its final stages.

8. [...]

VII. Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Implementation Review Group

9. At its 10th meeting, on 5 June 2015, the Implementation Review Group adopted the provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Implementation Review Group (CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/L.2).

VIII. Adoption of the report

10. On 5 June 2015, the Implementation Review Group adopted the report on its sixth session (CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/L.1 and Add.1-4).